



September 27, 2013

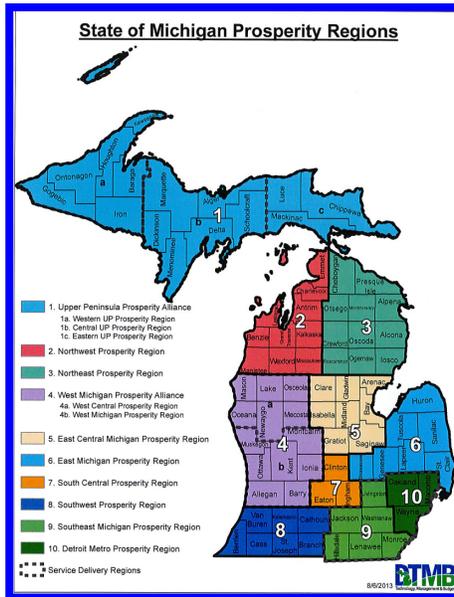
**GVMC Working with Regional Partners on Regional Prosperity Initiative**

Governor Snyder recently announced the Regional Prosperity Initiative. This new program is intended to bring about greater cooperation and coordination of services involving planning, economic development, work force development, higher education, local government, private companies and state agencies.

A competitive and voluntary grant process has been developed to assist regions in Michigan to better communicate and facilitate regional cooperation. In addition, more than 80 state services now are provided in a regional fashion with almost none of the regions

sharing common boundaries. State service areas are in the process of being adjusted to match the new regional boundaries and service areas.

Under the program only 4 organ-



izations in our 13 county region are eligible to receive the grand funding and administer the grant.

Grand Valley Metropolitan Council in collaboration with the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council, the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission and the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission will lead the team in this effort.

Our proposal for the West Michigan Prosperity Alliance and the new regional service areas is one of the largest geographic regions in the state. It includes 13 counties, over 340 local governments, 6 Work Force Boards, 3 Metropolitan Planning Organizations, 2 Regional Planning Agencies, 3 Rural Transportation Task Forces and many Economic Development and non-profit organizations. The area serves over 1.4 million citizens.

At our Board Meeting on Thursday October 3, at 8:30 in the Kent County Commission Chambers, we will further discuss the Regional Prosperity Initiative and ask for your approval of a resolution of support for our participation in this new initiative.

In addition, we are asking our members to adopt a similar resolution of support to include in our application. Support resolutions must be received by October 29th.

Thank you for the assistance!

**GVMC Breakfast Meeting Honoring Mayor Jim Buck with Special Guest Senator Carl Levin**



**Monday November 4, 2013**

**L. William Seidman Center**

**\$20.00 Per Person**

**8:00-9:30 am**

**Seating will be open at 7:30 am**

**Sign Up online at:**

**GVMC.org or Gayle at [McCrathG@gvmc.org](mailto:McCrathG@gvmc.org)**



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